

6 March 1981

MPY-0014

Memorandum for: Director, FBIS

Through : Chief, Operations Group

Subject : Monthly Report--Paraguay Bureau
February 1981.

I. GENERAL

The Paraguayan government has decreed that beginning in March, all regular gasoline will contain 5 % alcohol. This lowers the already mediocre quality of "comun" to the point that most U.S. vehicles will be forced to use high-octane gasoline, which costs 25% more (about \$4 per gallon).

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Though declining in violence, the Peruvian-Ecuadorean conflict has continued to generate abundant exchanges of verbiage, continuing to keep the bureau's Peruvian file higher than normal.

2. The Moscow broadcasts in assignment at Paraguay have yielded several items on the coverage of the 26th CAPSA Congress.

B. Communications

1. Paraguay Bureau experienced a commercial power outage on 28 February during which the embassy emergency generator failed to function for 55 minutes, completely shutting down bureau operations. Panama Bureau was contacted by telephone and backstopped Paraguay Bureau's coverage area from wire services until embassy maintenance personnel succeeded in starting the generator.

2. Paraguay Bureau suffered communications outages totaling 5 hours and 30 minutes during February. Buenos Aires LATIN was down for a total of 82 minutes and one Buenos Aires TELAM outage lasted 161 minutes.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE

A. IPS Study

[REDACTED]

were FBIS representatives STA

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to the Embassy team which compiled and interpreted data on the locally prevailing retirement system requested by Washington.

A copy of the team's report will be forwarded to FBIS Administrative staff.

B. Visits

The bureau welcomed a number of visitors during the month:

Regional Engineer [] arrived on 4 February following a 15-hour delay (courtesy of Braniff) and departed on 19 February.

Auditor [] arrived 16 February and departed Asuncion on 20 February and OSHA representative Jim Tomasetti paid a one-day visit to the bureau on 20 February.

Director/FBIS [] visited Asuncion from 26 February-2 March.

C. Persomnel

1. Monitor Trainee [] resignation was effective 21 February 1981.

2. Teletypist trainee [] begin her touch-typing class, during the month. Training was authorized by headquarters.

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Chief, FBIS Paraguay Bureau

CC: Panama Bureau
Att'd: Eng. Report
Operations Attach.
Monitorial Production Report
Monthly Production Report